AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert as a first paragraph the following below the title on page 1:

-- This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/960,719, filed September 24, 2001, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,657,161 entitled 'External Pipe Welding Apparatus' which claims the benefit of Canadian Patent Application No. 2,322,736, filed October 10, 2000. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

In the field, a variety of welding situations may present themselves. For example, the pipe sections to be welded may have large-angled bevels resulting in broad weld grooves. Conversely, other pipes having deep, thick sections will require that the weld be performed along a narrow weld seam. A flexible welding system is sought that is adaptable to such diverse conditions such that the welding operation can be ~~effect3ed~~ effected with a single, mobile, apparatus. In addition, the welding system should be flexible enough to enable a substantially constant heat input to the weld.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

An electronically controlled motor **74** drives the carriage **54** relative to the main carriage **28**. The motor **74** is mounted to a structure **76** that is fixedly connected to the mounting block **66**. The motor **74** has an output shaft **78** onto which a cog **80** is mounted. The cog **80** has projections (not shown) such as ribs which engage

corresponding projections (not shown) on the underside of a band or belt **82**. The belt **82** is connected to a second cog **84** which is mounted to a threaded shaft **86** that is fitted through the structure **76**. The belt **82**, the second cog **84** and the threaded shaft **86** co-operate to form a cog pulley **88**. Through this arrangement the threaded shaft **86** is precluded from translational movement relative to the main carriage **28** but is permitted rotational motion. A threaded nut **90** which is fixedly connected to the guide rod **62** and the mounting block **58** is adapted to receive, and threadingly engage, the shaft **86**, thereby forming a recirculating ball-screw mechanism, known to those skilled in the art. As will be explained in greater detail below, this mechanism when actuated will urge the carriage **54** to translate in a direction transverse to the weld seam **26**.